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Number 123

THE COMIC READER

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October 1975

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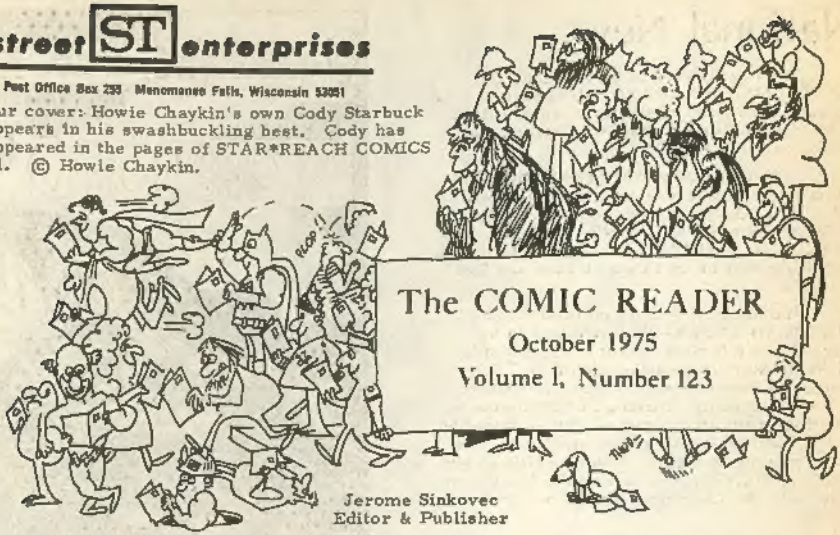
Our cover: Howie Chaykin's own Cody Starbuck appears in his swashbuckling best. Cody has appeared in the pages of STAR*REACH COMICS #1. © Howie Chaykin.



The COMIC READER

October 1975

Volume 1, Number 123

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National News

The first issues of KARATE KID, PLASTIC MAN and KOBRA will appear in November. The team on the first issue of KARATE KID is Paul Levitz, Ric Estrada and Joe Staton.

THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, the band of Quality super-heroes, is getting its own book. After the first issue, which was done by Gerry Conway, Ric Estrada and Mike Royer, Conway will take over as writer-editor and the art will be by Pablo Marcos and Tex Blaisdell.

Another new book is entitled SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS and is by Gerry Conway (writer-editor), Ric Estrada and Pablo Marcos (pencils and inks). The premise is that Darkseid desires to restart his attack on Earth utilizing Earth villains as unwitting pawns in his game. But -- they find out and band together against him. The first issue features Darkseid, Super Gorilla Grodd, Captain Cold, Clayface, one of the Manhunter clones and Star Sapphire, who is not Carol Ferrie.

METAL MEN will go straight to its own book (beginning with #45) instead of FIRST ISSUE SPECIAL, and will be edited by Gerry Conway. Steve Gerber wrote the first new issue, with Marty Pasko taking over with the second, and Walt Simonson is the artist. Doc Magnus will slowly regain his sanity.

SUPER DC GIANT is being revived as a monthly 50¢ companion to FIRST ISSUE SPECIAL. Containing mostly reprints, the

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first issue will be on sale in December and will feature the TEEN TITANS. Numbering will begin with #27.

Another 50¢ reprint companion to DC SPECIAL will be FOUR STAR SPECTACULAR also on sale in December. The first issue will feature Superboy, Wonder Woman, a re-drawn Golden-Age FLASH story, and another undecided tale.

FIRST ISSUE SPECIAL #11 features CODE NAME: ASSASSIN and is about a man with telekinetic powers who undergoes a traumatic experience and sets out to wipe out the mob. Gerry Conway and Steve Skeates are the writers, the Redondo studio did the pencilling, Al Milgrom inked and Mike Grell did the cover.

The twelfth issue of FIRST ISSUE SPECIAL is STARMAN by Gerry Conway and the art team of Mike Vosburg and Mike Royer. This is not the Earth II Ted Knight Starman but a new version who, as a member of an alien race set on invading Earth, rebels and joins the people of Earth in battling his own people. The cover is by Kubert.

The thirteenth issue will be THE NEW GODS by Gerry Conway and Mike Vosburg.

The previously announced FIRST ISSUE SPECIALs featuring Green Lantern, Green Arrow and Black Canary will be appearing in another, as yet undecided title.

An upcoming DC SPECIAL will feature WAR AGAINST THE MONSTERS.

THE SANDMAN will die in his sleep with issue #6. BEOWULF is being suspended with issue #6 (with the option of continuing

BLITZKRIEG
DC
WE DARE TO BE DIFFERENT
25¢
BLITZKRIEG
SHARING BATTLE SAGAS OF WORLD WAR 2 AS SEEN THROUGH ENEMY EYES!
DO NOT SHOOT, HUGO!
ORDERS ARE ORDERS! THEY ARE ENEMIES... AND THIS IS WAR!
1st DC ISSUE

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depending on sales) which will feature the battle between Satan and Grendel for control of the Underworld and will be laid out by Ric Estrada with finished art by Ric Villamonte. STALKER has been suspended as of #4 with the same option. HOUSE OF SECRETS has become a bi-monthly, and SHAZAM! and YOUNG LOVE have been demoted to quarterly.

The LIMITED COLLECTORS' EDITIONs on sale in November will be RUDOLPH and CHRISTMAS WITH THE SUPER-HEROES. January will see SUPERMAN VS. SPIDER-MAN and BI-CENTENNIAL SALUTE.

The 300th issue of SUPERMAN will feature "Superman 2001" by Cary Bates and Elliot Maggin, with layouts by Carmine Infantino and art by Curt Swan. The story tells what would have happened if Kal-El's rocket had landed on Earth in 1976 rather than 1938.

Ric Estrada and Wally Wood have done the artwork for the Hawkman-Flash issue of SUPER-TEAM FAMILY.

The Cary Bates-Elliot Maggin team have a SUPERGIRL story in the works as well as another BATGIRL-ROBIN tale. The first is for SUPERMAN FAMILY, the second for BATMAN FAMILY.

John Calnan is pencilling the Batman-Aquaman issue of THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD and Jim Aparo will ink it.

David Michelinie's threeparter for STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES #198-200 involves the Unknown Soldier being tried and convicted of treason. Mlle. Marie will guest star in the second and third parts. SSWS #201 will more than likely be a book-lengther.

Mike Uslan and Bob Rozakis have a three part BATMAN story coming up in DETECTIVE about a villain who believes that The Batman is really three people and sets out to get all three of him.

Speaking of DETECTIVE, the new back-up to alternate with Elongated Man and Hawkman will probably be written by Marty Pasko and will feature a current super-star.

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA has another casebook story coming up by Marty Pasko which will explain how they constructed their satellite. Pasko has also written a BATMAN tale which is a take-off on an ELLERY QUEEN-type story.

The Shark is returning in the jaws of the current fad in ACTION COMICS. ACTION will also feature the introduction of something called BLACKROCK -- created by a rival network (and Elliot Maggin) for the purpose of snatching away WGBS' high ratings.

Chic Stone has been made regular artist on KAMANDI after the Kirby material runs out.

KUNG FU FIGHTER will retire Jason and introduce Lady Shiva, a female karate expert.

The cover of the SECRET ORIGINS OF SUPER-HEROES hard cover is by Neal Adams.

Finally, in order to start off Superman's Birthday celebration, Sol Harrison wants everyone to send in unusual birthday cards to Superman. It's a contest to see who can send in the most unusual card. The cards will be displayed at the Superman Birthday Convention.

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Marvel News

MARVEL SPOTLIGHT will be featuring a number of try-out books for characters that have been around for awhile. One of them will be called WARRIORS THREE starring Volstagg, Fandral and Hogun, the loveable trio from THOR. It will be done by Len Wein, John Buscema and Steve Gan.

Another MARVEL SPOTLIGHT feature will be DOC SAMSON by Len Wein and George Tuska, the gamma-rayed strongman from THE HULK. Doc will fight The Rhino in that one.

MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #26 will feature THE SCARECROW in a story originally slated for #1 of his own book.

Other planned SPOTLIGHT issues include a S.H.I.E.L.D. issue by Jim Starlin and Howie Chaykin, and two books by Steve Gerber starring The Valkyrie and Nighthawk in seperate books.

MARVEL PREMIERE #28 will feature THE LEGION OF MONSTERS: Man-Thing, The Ghost Rider, Morbius and Werewolf By Night. It's written by Bill Mantlo and drawn by Frank Robbins.

MARVEL PREMIERE #29 introduces THE LIBERTY LEGION, the aggregation of old Timely heroes.

TITAN, a new strip originally planned for the MARVEL PREVIEW black and white, will appear instead as several issues of MARVEL PREMIERE.

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Now that KULL AND THE BARBARIANS has been cancelled, Roy Thomas is reviving KULL AND THE DESTROYER as writer-editor. It will begin with #16.

"I'm having the most fun doing WEIRDWORLD," says Doug Moench. "The story is called 'The Lord of Tyndall's Quest' and it's about Tyndall of Klarn, an elfin character who goes off to find out why he was sent to kill the heart of evil in the sun-lit core of the region of eternal shadows. It's delightful fantasy."

2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY will be on sale in July of 1976, so we have a long wait.

MARVEL SPECIAL EDITION has been terminated, leaving MARVEL TREASURY EDITION, OZ SERIES and 2001 as the only $1.50 titles on the schedule. The next MARVEL TREASURY is a Christmas issue. There may be some surprise oversize books coming up.

STRANGER THAN FICTION DEPT: Marvel is planning a book based upon the real-life rotund-helper of people who cannot help themselves, CAPTAIN STICKY, a man from San Diego nationally visible on the TOMORROW program, among others. Captain Sticky will traverse the newsstands of America in his Sticky-Mobile in either his own book or as a guest star in one of the Marvel super-hero titles. Bob Foster is working on this enormoose project.

Speaking of Bob Foster, there is a proposal for a TV special based upon Bob's Moose series in CRAZY to be entitled "History Of Moosekind." By the way, the Moosekind series will end in CRAZY #17.

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Sal Buscema is doing a fill-in issue of SPIDER-MAN.

Jim Starlin will be doing an issue of THE HULK called "Feeding Billy." The cover of HULK #197 is by Berni Wrightson and shows The Hulk battling Man-Thing.

Steve Gan will be taking over as inker of CONAN and has inked a Buscema issue of THOR, #244.

Sal Buscema will be doing all the drawing on MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE. Roy Thomas is taking over as editor.

The plot for the BLACK WIDOW teleplay is by Len Wein and Marv Wolfman and involves the origin of Black Widow. It does not include Daredevil.

Val Mayerik is taking over the artwork for KA-ZAR as the series gets revamped.

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The second issue of HOWARD THE DUCK will feature "The Menace Of The Deadly Space Turnip." Steve Gerber describes it as a humorous version of "Song Cry Of The Living Deadman." Gerber is also planning on doing an issue of MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE featuring The Duck.

We goofed. Last month's schedule should have included the last issue of FEAR, #31. Also, THE SAVAGE FISTS OF KUNG FU appeared as SPECIAL COLLECTOR'S EDITION #1 rather than MARVEL SPECIAL EDITION #2, as mentioned in last issue. (We mention this for the sake of the historian reading this ten years from now.)

Stan Lee mentioned in San Diego that the SUPERMAN-SPIDER-MAN book would

be issued as a DC and a Marvel with two different covers. Dick Giordano is inking.

And, our favorite puppy Lockjaw is returning in THE INHUMANS #3! Raise your hands if you wanna see a Lockjaw-Howard team-up.

Charlton News

Nick Cuti has resigned his position as assistant editor to George Wildman and will freelance for Charlton. He has been replaced by Paul Delpo, Nick's assistant. Paul's position has been filled by former WITZEND editor-publisher Bill Pearson.

The artwork for the three Charlton black and white magazines, SPACE: 1999, SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN and EMERGENCY, is being handled by the Adams-Giordano Continuity studios. Howie Chaykin has done a SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN story for them and many other of the Crusty Bunkers are participating. All writing will be by Nick Cuti.

Bruce D. Patterson will be inking a MIKE MAUSER story for VENGEANCE SQUAD. ROG-2000 has been taken out of DOOMSDAY + 1.

The third issue of CHARLTON BULLSEYE has been released and it contains a 24 page Sanho Kim story entitled WRONG COUNTRY. It was originally scheduled to appear as a regular book in 1973. Issue #4 is scheduled to contain new stories featuring E-MAN and ROG-2000. (Write: CHARLTON BULLSEYE, CPL/Gang Publications, 4010 Mallway Drive (A), Indianapolis, IN 46236) Price is $1.25.

The SPACE: 1999 Magazine is a monthly and we omitted it from last month's listings. Sorry.

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Coming Comics

SPEED BUGGY (4, January). (10/2)

WHEELIE AND THE CHOPPER BUNCH (4, January). (10/2)

THE GREAT GAZOO (14, January). (10/2)

DINO (14, January). (10/2)

YANG (11, January). Our Chinese champion stars in "The Killer King" by Joe Gill and Warren Sattler. The cover is by Sattler. (10/9)

FIGHTIN' ARMY (122, January). Stories in this issue are: "The Look Of Heroes," "The Vulture's Nest" by Joe Gill and Bill Molno, and "Who's A Hero?" (10/9)

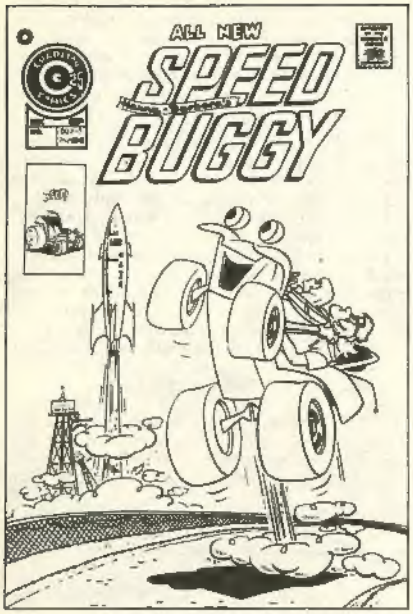
BEETLE BAILEY (114, January). (10/9)

BLONDIE (217, January). (10/9)

WAR (4, January). Featured in this issue are: "A Reason For Dying" by Joe Molloy and Bill Molno about a former slave who joins the Union army to fight his former master in the Confederacy; "The Raider" by Joe Gill and Cole; and "Torpedo Attack" by Pat Boyette. Cover is by Cole. (10/16)

SPACE: 1999 (2, January). Koenig and an alien are the only survivors when their ships crash on the planet Acteon after a battle. Though they despise each other they must learn to cooperate for the sake of their survival. Cover is by Joe Staton. (10/16)

SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN (1, January). Nick Cuti and Joe Staton bring you the first



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issue of the bionic man, Steve Austin, including his origin. Cover is by Staton. (10/16)

EMERGENCY (1, January). The paramedic team is brought to you by Nick Cuti and John Byrne. Cover is by Byrne. (10/16)

HAUNTED (25, January). No one believed in dragons until one day in "Jaws Of The Dragon" by Joe Gill and Steve Ditko. A civilization existing beneath the earth lives on the flames at the earth's core in "Temple Of Fire" by Gill and Wayne Howard. A box containing a severed head is trying to get a message across in "The Whispering Box" which was written and drawn by Tom Sutton. Cover is by Sutton. (10/21)

MIDNIGHT TALES (16, January). In this issue are three tales done by Wayne Howard and others. Cover is by Howard. (10/21)

FIGHTIN' MARINES (127, January). A cowward Marine runs from battle and is persecuted for it in "Chicken" by Joe Gill and Bill Molno; a G.I. survivor of a torpedoed boat lands on an island occupied by a Japanese soldier in "A Small, Small War" by Gill and Molno; and a G.I. befriends a Vietnamese boy who helps him in "Smile Of Death" by Pleiku. Cover is by Pat Boyette. (10/23)

SECRET ROMANCE (36, January). (10/23)

DOOMSDAY + 1 (4, January). The survivors battle the aliens in this latest story by Joe Gill and John Byrne. Cover is by Byrne. (10/28)

VENGENCE SQUAD (4, January). The Squad stars in "Devil's Paradise" by Joe Gill and PAM. The backup is "To Be Frank" starring Mike Mauser. Story is by Nick Cuti and art is by Joe Staton and Bruce Patterson. Cover is by PAM. (10/28)

MY ONLY LOVE (4, January). (10/30)

SECRETS OF YOUNG BRIDES (4, January). (10/30)

SPACE: 1999 Magazine (3, January). This magazine went monthly when we weren't looking. Like the last two issues, Nick Cuti and Gray Morrow do original stories based upon the new TV show. Cover is by Morrow. (10/30)

SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN Magazine (1, January) black and white. This magazine contains stories drawn by Continuity studios and written by Nick Cuti. This may contain the Howie Chaykin story. Cover is by Neal Adams. (10/30)

EMERGENCY Magazine (1, January), black and white. Another book handled by Continuity and written by Nick Cuti. Cover is by Neal Adams. (10/30)

GHOST MANOR (27, January). We weren't able to track down the contents of this issue. Cover is by Tom Sutton. (10/30)

GHOSTLY TALES (119, January). We don't know this one either. Cover is by Rich Larson. (10/30)

JUST MARRIED (109, January). (10/30)

SARGE SNORKEL (12, January). (10/30)

A Letter from the Editors

We've often toyed with the idea of having a reader participation column in TCR without having it degenerate in a pat-on-the-back for ourselves. It may be true that a reader forum in TCR could become nothing but bickering about company policies and decrying about the cancellation of books, but the pre-Levitz TCRs had letter columns and they were quite interesting at times. For this reason, I am opening up our pages again to you, the readership, as a quorum for whatever you might feel is worth discussing. If you take issue with anything reported or misrepresented in these pages, tell us about it. If you wish to bring up something in any way related to comics, please feel free to do so. I would ask that all letters for publication here be separate from any orders from Street Enterprises (renewal of subscriptions or whatever) and that anything meant for this column be clearly identified as such to clarify things for me.

Starting this month, we're going to attempt to conduct a poll involving a question of reader opinion or popularity. I'd guess that the results of each poll would run two months following the question to get as complete a response as possible.

This month's question: If you had the power to create a comic book based upon any existant character in any medium, what would you most like to see?

Obviously, this covers a lot of ground. But I would like to see if there is any consensus of opinion on what TCR readers would like to see. Again, address your response to this column (TCR MAILBOAT). Mike

Et Al

Wonder Bread, via Continental Baking and the License Corporation of America, both segments of Warner Communications, have issued a series of DC super-heroes and Warner Brothers cartoon characters. There are 30 in the set and we would very much appreciate it if someone could get us a set. The DC characters look like they were done by Don Newton.

Gil Kane's Morning Star Press project should be available in October. Two Robert E. Howard novels of 100 pages each -- one, "The Flame Horse" by Gil Kane, and the other "King Of The Abyss" starring Bloodstar by Richard Corben, will be published in hardcover, 8 1/2" x 11", full color dust jacket for $12.95 each. Write: The Morning Star Press Box 6011, Leawood, KS 66206 for details.

The Scrimshaw Press has issued an early illustrated book by Robert Crumb entitled THE YUM YUM BOOK. The story involves a toad named Oggie who travels to another planet where he falls in love with a disinterested giantess called Guntra. The book is in color and $6.95. (Fritz the Cat cameos.)

1976 will feature the Science Fiction EXPO Convention in New York from June 24-28... which means, if you think about it, two full weeks of conventions around the July 4th weekend. For people who can withstand that much and have interests in both fields, it should be the consummate pilgramage to New York in '76.

October should see the release of the first volume of the paperback comics series under production by Byron Preiss Visual Publications, to be released by Pyramid Books. The first issue, the cover of which is shown below, will feature stories by Philip Jose Farmer and Tom Sutton, Byron Preiss and Jim Steranko, Archie Goodwin and Dave Sheridan, Ron Goulart and Alex Nino, and Joann Kobin and Jeff Jones. The cover, with illustration by Steranko, will feature an orange day-glo backround, and the insides will be printed on heavy offset stock as opposed to the normal newsprint paper. Price is $1.50.

The second volume of the series is complete and is due out in December. There are four additional volumes in production and the third issue will feature an Alex Nino cover.

Mechanical Mirror Works of New York has manufactured some rather handsome shadow boxes featuring Superman, Batman and

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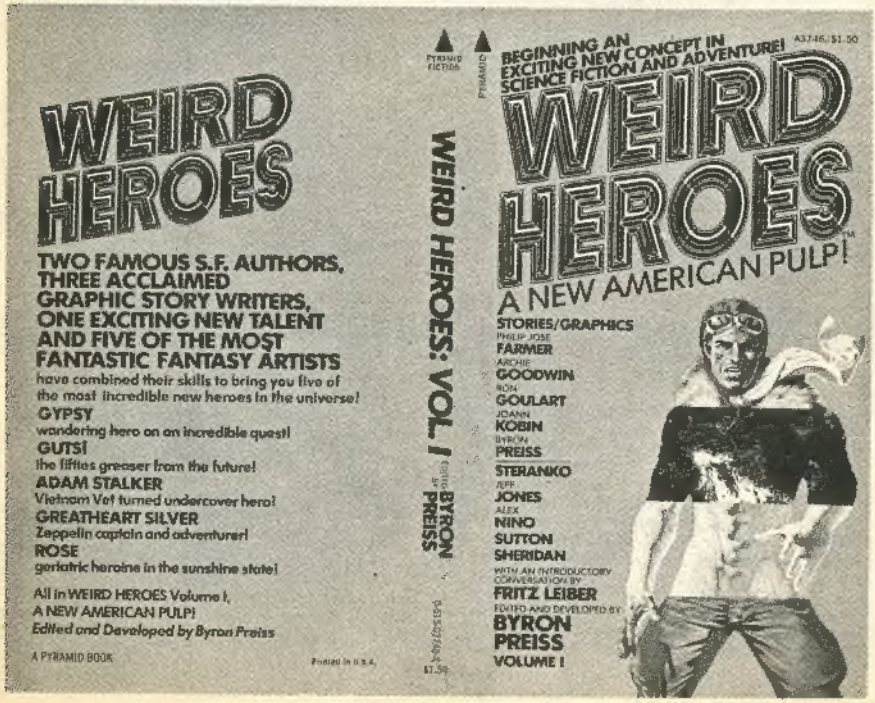

Wonder Woman. They feature a glass overlay of each hero over four pages of colored art from varied comics. They measure 16" x 20", wholesale for $6.00 (they also have a smaller version of the shadow box with only one comic page for $1.20 wholesale) and are available in most gift shops. Write: Mechanical Mirror Works, 661-663 Edgecomb Ave., New York, NY 10032 or call (212) 795-2100 for details.

Comment

My Comment this month will be very short, at least compared to previous months. Trends in comic books are very interesting and very complicated and it seems as if something almost magical causes them to occur in most of the companies at the same time. Going back to the up and down status of the super-hero in the early forties, early fifties and mid-'60s, which was intertwined with the mystery renaissance in the late forties, mid fifties and late sixties, we can see that there seems to be a sort of spiral that these movements can be graphed upon. Currently, the mystery-horror trend seems to be succumbing to the growing popularity of super-heroes. More correctly, the growing trend of super-hero groups.

Marvel has the longtime groups of course; FANTASTIC FOUR, AVENGERS, X-MEN. Recent years, however, have brought us DEFENDERS, INVADERS, CHAMPIONS, LEGION OF MONSTERS, LIBERTY LEGION and the GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY, overlooking MARVEL TEAM-UP, SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP and teams like Daredevil-Black Widow, Captain America-The Falcon and the Sons of the Tiger.

DC has seen fit to expand their number of super-hero teams also. Joining JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA are the LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES, the JUSTICE SOCIETY-SUPER SQUAD, the BLACKHAWKS, FREEDOM FIGHTERS, NEW GODS, and METAL MEN. Talk circulates about revivals of the DOOM PATROL, TEEN TITANS and CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN. Why should these books, cancelled in the mystery trend, suddenly become viable ideas?

It's hard to understand, isn't it? The super-hero (singular) has been in the minority lately, and Charlton's sole excursion into the field failed. Marvel has plenty of new super characters but they're all in groups. No brand new solo super-hero books have been released by DC since the late '60s. Obviously someone up there believes that old heroes will have an identification factor with readers, and that putting four or five soft boiled eggs in one basket will make a more nourishing meal for the reader and their pocketbooks. But, in the constantly changing comic-readership makeup, why would one believe that old heroes are necessarily more saleable? Or, that any team, no matter its makeup, will sell? Could it be that they've all run out of good ideas for new heroes -- or are they all afraid to go in a new direction?

-Andy Hildebrand

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Warren News

COMIX INTERNATIONAL #2 will soon be available, but only by mail through Warren. It will feature full color reprints of "Muck Monster" by Berni Wrightson, "The Wing Shaft Of Fate," 'Circus Of King Carnival," and "Black And White Vacuum To Blues," all by Esteban Maroto, "Anti-Christmas," "The Raven," "Forgive Us Our Trespasses," "Wizard Wagstaff," 'Mind Of The Mass," and Child Hood's End," all by Rich Corben.

In December, VAMPIRELLA #49 will feature a Vampi-Spirit team-up in which Vampirella visits Wildwood Cemetray. Written by Bill DuBay, it will be drawn by Will Eisner and Gonzalo Mayo.

VAMPIRELLA's 50th Anniversary issue will be all-Vampirella.

Coming Comics

THE SPIRIT (11, December). There will be eight stories in this issue, but they're undecided at this time. One will feature Silk Satin, another Plaster Of Paris. (10/14)

EERIE (71, December). "The Goblin' is a little creature that comes out of a clock to discover a world in which he doesn't belong in the first story by Budd Lewis and Jose Ortiz. Hunter II meets a lost race of people in "Time In Expansion" by Lewis and Paul Neary; El Cid battles a grimacing demon in "In A Demon's Smile" by Lewis and Gonzalo Mayo; a house full of monsters is featured in 'Mansion Macabre" by Bill DuBay and Esteban Maroto; and 'The January Man' by Gerry Boudreau and Luis Bermejo features a strange little man who materializes from nowhere and claims to be the guardian of January. Cover is by Sanjulian, inside front cover by Berni Wrightson. (10/21)

CREEPY (76, December). Reincarnation is the theme of "Goodbye Mr. Lincoln" as a little slave boy died the day Lincoln was born, civil rights leader John Collins was born the day Lincoln died and when Collins was killed, John F. Kennedy was born. Story by Bill DuBay, art by Jose Ortiz. Aliens from outer space capture humans and experiment with them in "Ensnared" by Rich Margopoulos and Alex Toth. Strange people are crawling around New York City in "Creeps" by Archie Goodwin and Wally Wood and John Severin. A vampire hunter in the old west is the theme of "A Flash Of Lightning" by Gerry Boudreau and Severin. "Linked With Darkness features jailed vampires in the 1800s and is by Doug Moench and Vicente Alcazar, and "The Illusionist" features a prestidigitator and is by DuBay and Luis Bermejo. Cover is by Sanjulian and inside front cover is by Ortiz. (10/23)

VAMPIRELLA (48, December). "A Cold Day For A Vampire Hunt" resolves the conflict between Pendragon, Vampi and Adam Van Helsing as the ghost of Conrad Van Helsing makes a strange appearance in a story by Bill DuBay and Gonzalo Mayo. You can get anything you want -- for a price in "The Satan Complex" by DuBay and Ramon Torrents; Edgar Allen Poe's "The Imp Of The Perverse" is adapted by Rich Margopoulos and Luis Bermejo; and Vampirella stars in "The Lost Tales Of Drakulon" by DuBay and Zesar, as Vampi and her friends continue their search for blood for Dracula by trying to figure out a way to send babies to Earth in rocket ships. Cover is by Enrich, inside front cover is by Jose Gonzalez. (10/30)

FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND (122, December). (11/4)

Gold Key

Walt Disney's UNCLE SCROOGE (124, December). Reprint material. (10/2)

BEEP BEEP, THE ROAD RUNNER (55, December). New material. (10/2)

YOSEMITE SAM AND BUGS BUNNY (33, December). New material. (10/2)

THE OCCULT FILES OF DOCTOR SPEKTOR (18, January). New material by Don Glut and Jesse Santos. (10/2)

DAGAR THE INVINCIBLE (14, January). New material by Don Glut and Jesse Santos. (10/2)

BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY (65, December). New stories. (10/9)

LOONEY TUNES (5, December). New material. (10/9)

FAT ALBERT (10, December). New material. (10/9)

THE INSPECTOR (7, January). New material. (10/9)

Walt Disney's BEAGLE BOYS (27, January). New material. (10/9)

Walt Disney's MOBY DUCK (21, January). Reprint material. (10/16)

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! (59, December). New stories. (10/16)

DAFFY DUCK (98, December). New material. (10/16)

WALT DISNEY SHOWCASE (33, January). Pluto is reprinted in this issue. (10/16)

MAGNUS, ROBOT FIGHTER (42, January). A Russ Manning story is reprinted. (10/16)

WALT DISNEY COMICS DIGEST (56, December). One fifth new, the rest reprints. (10/21)

Walt Disney's CHIP 'N' DALE (37, January). Reprint material. (10/23)

GRIMM'S GHOST STORIES (28, January). New stories. (10/23)

Walt Disney's DAISY AND DONALD (14, January). New material. (10/23)

MOD WHEELS (19, January). New material drawn by Jack Sparling. (10/23)

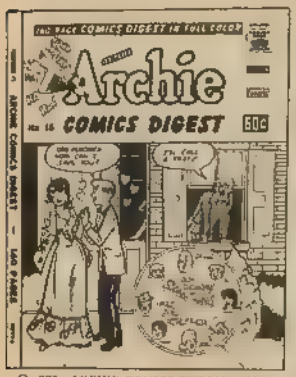
SPACE FAMILY ROBINSON LOST IN SPACE ON SPACE STATION ONE (46, January). New material by Dan Spiegle. (10/23)

TWEETY AND SYLVESTER (62, December). New stories. (10/30)

WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES (423, December). New reprint material. (10/30)

SPINE-TINGLING TALES (4, January). Stories that originally appeared in MYSTERY COMICS DIGEST by Dan Spiegle and Jesse Santos are reprinted. (10/30)

UFO FLYING SAUGERS (9, January). New material by Frank Bolle. (10/30)



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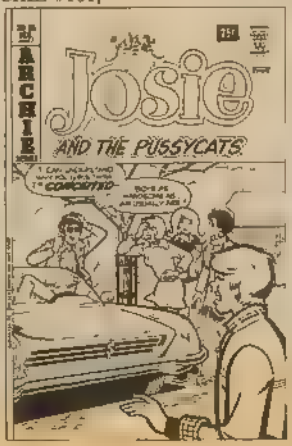
Archie

On Sale September 23: ARCHIE'S PALS 'N' GALS #100, ARCHIE'S JOKEBOOK #215, BETTY AND VERONICA #240, PEP COMICS #308
On Sale September 30: LAUGH COMICS #297, LIFE WITH ARCHIE #164, JUGHEAD #247, ARCHIE #249, SABRINA #29
On Sale October 7 LITTLE ARCHIE #101, EVERYTHING'S ARCHIE #44, ARCHIE AND ME #79, REGGIE AND ME #83, ARCHIE COMICS DIGEST #15
On Sale October 14: ARCHIE'S TV LAUGHOUT #36, BETTY AND ME #71
On Sale October 21 JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS #86, ARCHIE AT RIVERDALE HIGH #31 (all dated December).



National Lampoon

Due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, NATLAMP's October issue was a "Hodgepodge Issue." This month's is the "Work Issue" scheduled for last time.

NATIONAL LAMPOON (68, November). In this issue: "Shirking" by John Weidman and Sean Kelly, a story about Indians on high steel by Brian McConnachie, a Union newsletter, "How To Make a Successful Sale" as explained by Gerry Sussman, "Ferdinand The Bulldozer" by Sean Kelly, Tony Hendra and Ric Meyerowitz, "Some Men Like To Work" by John Glashan, a Workman's Compensation Pamphlet by Ted Mann, and "Equal Pay For Equal Work" by Shary Flenniken. (10/16)

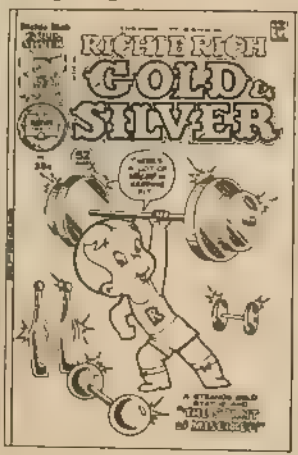
Next issue will be the "Money" issue, followed by a "Cloak and Dagger" issue.

Media News

Greetings, poetry lovers... Sword and sorcery films involving super-heroes in fantastic adventures with wizards, warlocks and prehistoric animals may be the next film cycle as predicted by London-based producer Milton Subotsky. He has formed two new companies to specialize in this genre. Swords and Sorcery Productions will handle films of fantastic adventure. The Great Fantastic Film Company will make films of fantasy and imagination, science fiction, super-hero adventures and films based upon comic book heroes. This new team will enter immediate production on three of the six Thongor novels by Lin Carter which are set on an imaginary world of 15,000 years ago. Subotsky has written the first two scripts: THONGOR IN THE VALLEY OF DEMONS, based upon Carter's THE WIZARD OF LEMURIA, and THONGOR IN THE CITY OF SORCERERS, derived from Carter's THONGOR OF LEMURIA and THONGOR AGAINST THE GODS. The third script is to be based upon a novel that Carter is now writing, THAR, SON OF THONGOR, in which the super-hero and his ten-year-old swordsman son battle against the monsters and villains of Lemuria. The trio of films, using the same cast, special effects and animation crew, will be filmed back-to-back on an overall budget of $7,000,000. The project will involve two years of storyboard drawing, special effects shooting, principle photography with live actors and later stop-frame puppet animation photography. Aim is for a PG audience, for release in the summer of '77, Christmas '77 and summer of '78. Subotsky, on a recent trip to New York, has tied up two Marvel comics creations, picking up the option on SPIDER-MAN and THE HULK. The SPIDER-MAN film will feature a script by Brian Clemens, the HULK a script by Subotsky. Subotsky also is working on Edgar Rice Burroughs' AT THE EARTH'S CORE... It Had To Happen Dept.: Now in production is JAWS II, the planned sequel; not to mention a shark picture called MAKO -- THE JAWS OF DEATH; CRIMSON BLOOD, a tale of a man who trains sharks to kill his enemies; DOLPHIN ISLAND, from an Arthur C. Clarke novel; CLAWS, the story of a rampaging bear in Yellowstone National Park; and PIRANHA, about a crazed aquarium owner who puts piranha fish in Beverly Hills swimming pools. United Artists owns a property called ALLIGATOR, but the film is stymied because UA learned, after investing a hefty sum for development, that alligators almost never attack human beings. (Aww, so what? Do it anyway.)... Speaking of sequels, EXORCIST II is also going into production featuring that rapidly aging child star Linda Blair. It involves the young priest who looks into his mentor's old cases... MGM is filming LOGAN'S RUN, based on William Nolan's science fiction novel. It stars Peter Ustinov and Michael York... Paramount is doing an adaptation of Kurt Vonnegut's BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS. Cast includes Groucho Marx and Alice Cooper... PHASE IV won the GOLDEN ASTEROID of Trieste's 13th annual International Festival Of Science Fiction Films. Harry Harrison was among the judges... DOC SAVAGE is now premiering in London where it is said to be getting "good response"... Wayne Rogers and 20th Century Fox have dropped all legal action with Rogers definitely leaving M*A*S*H, never to return. Meanwhile, Harry Morgan, as Colonel Sherman Potter, and Mike Farrell, as Captain B. J. Hunnicutt, will be introed in a special one hour episode of M*A*S*H's premiere episode of the fourth season. The first eight episodes have been filmed and are said to be the best ever... In a move worthy of ABC, Jackie Cooper's new series MOBILE TWO, has become MOBILE ONE. Must have something to do with positive thinking... Speaking of ABC, look for six or eight of their current shows to be gone by November as the earliest "Second Season" of all time debuts... Casting is still up in the air (so to speak) for SUPERMAN '76 but the trades have Burt Reynolds likely as the Man Of Steel with Mary Tyler Moore possible as Lois. Clark will be a talk-show host in the film... ROLLING STONE #194 featured a cover by Garry Trudeau and an inside story by Trudeau and Nicholas von Hoffman, "Doonesbury's Last Tago In Pago Pago." The tago is a new dance... Georgia Brown and Samantha Eggar are also in THE SEVEN PER CENT SOLUTION... Universal sent out a four-page release documenting national hysteria termed "Jaws Fever." Much press coverage touting a bevy of shark-themed projects from clothing, posters, comics, etc. were detailed. But the New York DAILY NEWS outdid the company by far when it reported that a man suffered a heart attack while viewing the picture in a local theatre. (Jaws comics???)... OBITUARY: James Blish, 54, science fiction writer, died July 30 at his home in England. His books include FALLEN STAR, TITAN'S DAUGHTER, EARTHMAN, COME HOME, and other works. He also wrote the series of STAR TREK paperback adaptations... JAWS director Steven Spielberg's next film will be a science fiction story entitled CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF ANOTHER KIND for Columbia. He will write and direct... Query: What infamous San Francisco topless dancer is said to be in the running for the title role of the film version of the Oscar Lebeck-Al McWilliams comic strips TWIN EARTHS? Do you think I'd tell? -R. Blabbit

Continuity Assoc.

The major news is that Continuity is producing and packaging the two new black and white magazines for Charlton. EMERGENCY and SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN will be fifty pages with covers by Neal Adams. Neal has done a record jacket for singer Bill LaBounty featuring a "romance comic" look. Neal and Sergio Aragones are teaming up to do a book to be published in Europe, and eventually in the U.S. It is a re-doing of the classics. Sergio and Neal plot and do the dialogue together, then Sergio does the layouts and Neal the finished art. It will be forty pages in process color like the various Dargaud publications. Neal has done two Kung Fu movie posters and a general release poster of "The Death Of Bruce Lee." Dick Giordano is inking the SUPERMAN-SPIDER-MAN book. Neal will be doing the covers for the last twelve TARZAN books as they're reissued. Dick has inked most of Neal's work on the DC Calendar. Lastly, there is a new series of Ford Pinto commercials due out this fall that have storyboards done by the Continuity studios...



Harvey

All books cover dated January. Books with a * are 52 pages for 35¢, others are 36 pages for 25¢.

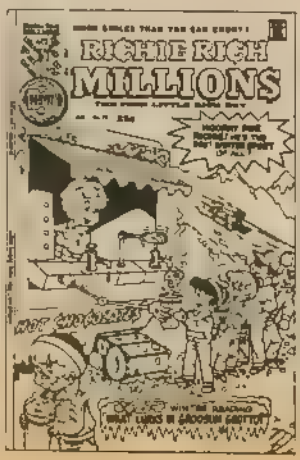
On Sale October 2: RICHIE RICH #138, RICHIE RICH MONEY WORLD #21, SPOOKY #148, CASPER HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT #1*.

On Sale October 9: HOT STUFF #132, RICHIE RICH FORTUNES #26, RICHIE RICH CASH #9, HARVEY COLLECTOR'S COMICS #3*.

On Sale October 16: CASPER #183, RICHIE RICH VAULT$ OF MY$TERY #8, RICHIE RICH AND JACKIE JOKERS #13, SUPER RICHIE #3*.

On Sale October 23: LITTLE LOTTA #119, SAD SACK #248, RICHIE RICH MILLIONS #75, RICHIE RICH GOLD AND SILVER #3*.

On Sale October 30: RICHIE RICH RICHES #22, RICHIE RICH GEMS #9, CASPER'S GHOSTLAND #88, SPOOKY SPOOKTOWN #148.



ST Pocket Checklist

October 1975

Marvel

- ☐ AMAZING ADVENTURES #34
- ☐ THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #152
- ☐ ASTONISHING TALES #33
- ☐ THE AVENGERS #143
- ☐ BLACK GOLIATH #1
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #193
- ☐ CAPTAIN MARVEL #42
- ☐ CHAMBER OF CHILLS #20
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #58
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #129
- ☐ DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU #18
- ☐ THE DEFENDERS #31
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #166
- ☐ HOWARD THE DUCK #1
- ☐ THE INCREDIBLE HULK #195
- ☐ THE INVADERS #4
- ☐ IRON MAN #82
- ☐ JUNGLE ACTION #19
- ☐ KA-ZAR #14
- ☐ KID COLT OUTLAW #202
- ☐ MARVEL FEATURE #2
- ☐ MARVEL PREVIEW #4
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #55
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #41
- ☐ MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION #27
- ☐ MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #13
- ☐ MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #61
- ☐ MASTER OF KUNG FU #36
- ☐ MY LOVE #38
- ☐ PLANET OF THE APES #15
- ☐ RAWHIDE KID #131
- ☐ THE RINGO KID #26
- ☐ THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #9
- ☐ SGT. FURY #131
- ☐ SKULL THE SLAYER #3
- ☐ STRANGE TALES #183
- ☐ THOR #243
- ☐ TOMB OF DARKNESS #18
- ☐ TOMB OF DRACULA #40
- ☐ WEREWOLF BY NIGHT #36

Charlton

- ☐ BEETLE BAILEY #114
- ☐ BLONDIE #217
- ☐ DINO #14
- ☐ DOOMSDAY + 1 #4
- ☐ EMERGENCY #1
- ☐ EMERGENCY Magazine #1
- ☐ FIGHTIN' ARMY #122
- ☐ FIGHTIN' MARINES #127
- ☐ GHOST MANOR #28
- ☐ GHOSTLY TALES #119
- ☐ THE GREAT GAZOO #14
- ☐ HAUNTED #25
- ☐ JUST MARRIED #109
- ☐ MIDNIGHT TALES #16
- ☐ MY ONLY LOVE #4
- ☐ SARGE SNORKEL #12
- ☐ SECRET ROMANCES #36
- ☐ SECRETS OF YOUNG BRIDES #4
- ☐ SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN #1
- ☐ SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN Magazine #1
- ☐ SPACE: 1999 #2
- ☐ SPACE: 1999 Magazine #3
- ☐ SPEED BUGGY #4
- ☐ VENGEANCE SQUAD #4
- ☐ WAR #4
- ☐ WHEELIE AND THE CHOPPER BUNCH #4
- ☐ YANG #11

National

- ☐ ACTION COMICS #455
- ☐ ADVENTURE COMICS #443
- ☐ ALL STAR COMICS #58
- ☐ BATMAN #271
- ☐ THE BATMAN FAMILY #3
- ☐ BLACKHAWK #244
- ☐ BLITZKRIEG #1
- ☐ THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD #124
- ☐ CLAW THE UNCONQUERED #5
- ☐ DETECTIVE COMICS #455
- ☐ FIRST ISSUE SPECIAL #10 (The Outsiders)
- ☐ GHOSTS #45
- ☐ G.I. COMBAT #186
- ☐ HOUSE OF SECRETS #139
- ☐ THE JOKER #5
- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #126
- ☐ KAMANDI #37
- ☐ OUR ARMY AT WAR #288
- ☐ OUR FIGHTING FORCES #163
- ☐ PLOP! #19
- ☐ SHAZAM! #22
- ☐ STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES #195
- ☐ SUPERBOY #214
- ☐ SUPERMAN #295
- ☐ TARZAN #245
- ☐ THE TARZAN FAMILY #261
- ☐ TOR #5
- ☐ THE UNEXPECTED #171
- ☐ THE WARLORD #1
- ☐ WEIRD WAR TALES #44
- ☐ WEIRD WESTERN TALES #32
- ☐ WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #235

Warren

- ☐ CREEPY #76
- ☐ EERIE #71
- ☐ FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND #122
- ☐ THE SPIRIT #11
- ☐ VAMPIRELLA #48

Gold Key

- ☐ THE BEAGLE BOYS #27
- ☐ BEEP BEEP, THE ROAD RUNNER #55
- ☐ BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY #65
- ☐ CHIP 'N' DALE #37
- ☐ DAFFY DUCK #98
- ☐ DAGAR THE INVINCIBLE #14
- ☐ DAISY AND DONALD #14
- ☐ FAT ALBERT #10
- ☐ GRIMM'S GHOST STORIES #28
- ☐ THE INSPECTOR #7
- ☐ LOONEY TUNES #5
- ☐ MAGNUS, ROBOT FIGHTER #42
- ☐ MOBY DUCK #21
- ☐ MOD WHEELS #19
- ☐ THE OCCULT FILES OF DR. SPECKTOR #18
- ☐ RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! #59
- ☐ SPACE FAMILY ROBINSON LOST IN SPACE #46
- ☐ SPINE-TINGLING TALES #4
- ☐ TWEETY AND SYLVESTER #52
- ☐ UFO FLYING SAUCERS #9
- ☐ UNCLE SCROOGE #124
- ☐ WALT DISNEY COMICS DIGEST #56
- ☐ WALT DISNEY SHOWCASE #33 (Pluto)
- ☐ WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES #423
- ☐ YOSEMITE SAM AND BUGS BUNNY #33

National Lampoon

- ☐ NATIONAL LAMPOON #68

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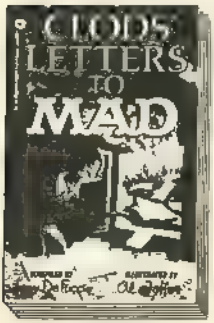

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Marvel Coming Comics

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF C[illegible]AN (9, December) black and white. The lead Conan story is "Curse Of The Cat[illegible]ss" by Roy Thomas and Pablo Marcos. A six page portfolio of Conan drawings by Steve Fabian is followed by a new Kull story, "When A Tiger Returns To Atlantis" by Doug Moench and Sonny Trinidad. Cover is by Boris Vallejo. (10/2)

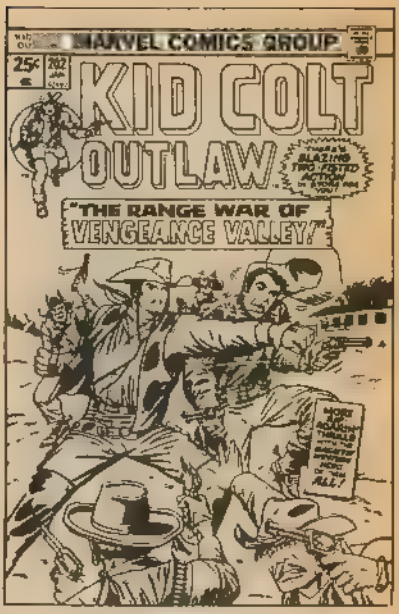
DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU (18, December) black and white. Shang Chi stars in "The Secret Of The Dragon" by Doug Moench and Rudy Nebres, plus Iron Fist teams up with the Sons Of The Tiger in "Fists Of Darkness, Fists Of Death" by Bill Mantlo, Pat Broderick and Terry Austin. Cover is by

Nick Cardy, inside front cover by Austin. (10/2)

DAREDEVIL (129, January). The Man-Bull busts out of jail, Matt must defend him in court against murder charges and one of the most bizarre sub-plots ever continues in "Man-Bull In A Chinatown" by Marv Wolfman, Bob Brown and Klaus Janson. (10/7)

KID COLT OUTLAW (202, January). Kid Colt comes to the aid of sheep herders in "Range War In Vengeance Valley" by Gary Friedrich, Dick Ayers and Vince Colletta. (10/7)

TOMB OF DRACULA (40, January). Since Dracula was killed in last issue, he doesn't appear in this one except in flashback as we learn more about Harold H. Harold, Aurora Rabinowitz and the secret of Rachel's past in



"Nightmares Of A Living Deadman" by Marv Wolfman, Gene Colan and Tom Palmer. (10/7)

THE INVADERS (4, January). Delayed from last month, the U-Man story is concluded and Betty Dean is introduced, changed from a policewoman to a war correspondent in "U-Man Must Be Stopped" by Roy Thomas, Frank

Robbins and Vince Colletta. (10/7)

TOMB OF DARKNESS (18, January). (10/7)

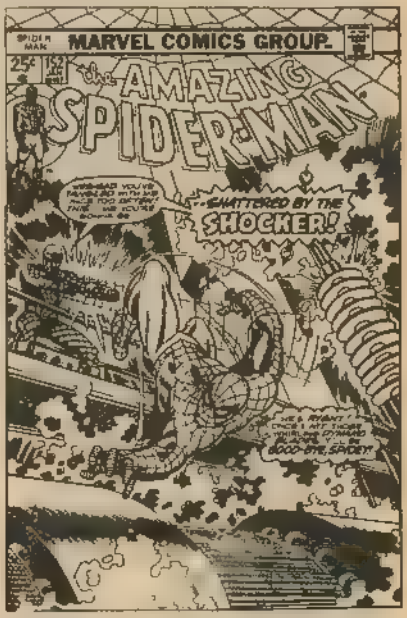
MY LOVE (38, January). (10/7)

BLACK GOLIATH (1, January). Black Goliath, former lab assistant to Henry Pym, gets his own book and fights the Atom Smasher in a tale by Tony Isabella, George Tuska and Vince Colletta. (10/7)

SKULL THE SLAYER (3, January). Delayed from last month too, the entire crew gets costumes and fights mechanical dinosaurs in "Terror In The Tower Of Time" by Marv Wolfman and Steve Gan. (10/7)

PLANET OF THE APES (15, December) black and white. Featured in this issue are Part two of the History Chronicles entitled "Dreamer In Emerald Silence" by Doug Moench and Tom Sutton, and the next chapter of ESCAPE FROM TPOTA, "In The Cradle Of A Father's Sins" by Doug Moench and Rico Rival. Cover is by Bob Larkin. (10/7)

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (152, January). Spider-Man digs his way out of a watery grave in "Shattered By The Shocker" by Len Wein, Rosa Andru, Mike Esposito and Frank Giacoia, a fine team-effort. (10/14)



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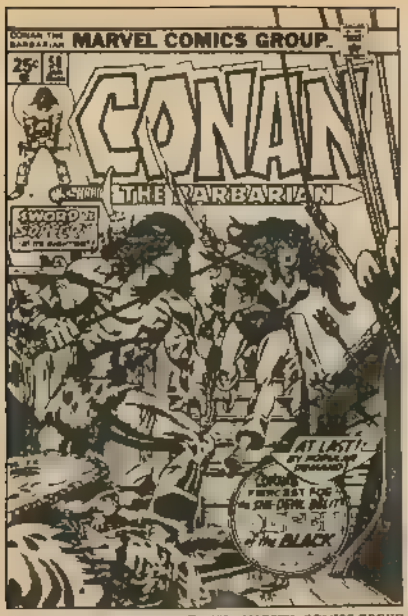
CAPTAIN AMERICA (193, January). The King returns to his creation as Cap and The Falcon fight the menace of "Mad Bomb." Script and art by Jack Kirby, inks by Frank Giacoia. (10/14)

THOR (243, January). Thor fights anachronistic menaces in a time stream in "Turmoil In The Time Stream" by Len Wein, John Buscema and Joe Sinnott. (10/14)

MASTER OF KUNG FU (36, January). This story was originally slated for a GIANT-SIZE issue and is twenty pages long. Part one gets it started as Shang Chi fights Darkstryder and the Warriors Of The Web, and meets Moon Sun and The Circus Of Fear in "Menagerie Of Mirrors" by Doug Moench, Keith Pollard and Sal Trapani. (10/14)



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MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS (61, January). From FF #79 is "A Monster Forever ' by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (10/14)

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE (13, January). The Thing teams with Powerman to battle "Braggadoon -- The Mountain That Walks Like A Man ' by Marv Wolfman, Roger Slifer, Len Wein, Ron Wilson and Vince Colletta. (10/14)

CHAMBER OF CHILLS (20, January). (10/14)

ASTONISHING TALES (33, January). A story featuring Deathlok by Bill Mantlo and Rich Buckler will appear in this issue but we don't know what it is. (10/14)

STRANGE TALES (183, January). Delayed from last month, this issue features ' Mordo Must No Catch Me and "In The Domain Of The Dread Dormammu by Stan Lee, Steve Ditko and George Rousos from ST #125-26. (10/14)

MARVEL PREVIEW (4, January), black and white. His birth was pre-destined by an alien intelligence. His mission is a mystery, even to himself, but one of his motives is vengeance on the aliens who murdered his mother. He is "STARLORD" and is featured in a story by Steve Englehart and Steve Gan. The backup is "Sword In The Star" and is loosely based on Homer's ODYSSEY. Cover is by Gray Morrow. (10/14)

THE AVENGERS (143, January). Finally -- the end of Kang! Story is by Steve Englehart, George Perez and Sam Grainger. (10/21)

CONAN THE BARBARIAN (58, January). The beginning of the most long-awaited Conan series of all is featured in this issue -- "Queen Of The Black Coast" by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Steve Gan. (10/21)

THE DEFENDERS (31, January). The Headmen return and Nighthawk's brain is stolen and replaced with the brain of Chondu the Magician in 'Nighthawk's Brain" by Steve Gerber, Sal Buscema and Jim Mooney. (10/21)

THE INCREDIBLE HULK (195, January). The Hulk slugs it out with the Abomination in an amusement park designed like Alice's Wonderland in 'Warfare In Wonderland ' by Len Wein, Sal Buscema and Joe Staton. (10/21)

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES (55, January). The Hulk and Sub-Mariner team-up in a story from TALES TO ASTONISH #100, "Let There Be Battle" by Stan Lee, Marie Severin and Dan Adkins. (10/21)

RAWHIDE KID (131, January). (10/21)

JUNGLE ACTION (19, January). The Panther-devil and Monica return to the United States to investigate the murder of Monica's sister In part one of the Panther vs. The Klan in "Blood And Sacrifices" by Don McGregor, Billy Graham and Bob McLeod. (10/21)

MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION (27, January). From'AVENGERS #35 is "The Light That Failed" by Stan Lee, Don Heck and Sam Rosen. (10/21)

MARVEL FEATURE (2, January). Delayed from last month, Red Sonja relieves a bounty hunter of his bounty in Blood Of The Hunter' by Bruce Jones and Frank Thorne. (10/21)

FANTASTIC FOUR (166, January). The FF battles the Hulk -- but wait a second -- what side is The Thing on? "If It's Tuesday, That

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Must Be The Hulk" by Roy Thomas, George Perez and Vince Colletta. (10/28)

MARVEL TEAM-[illegible] (41, January). Spider-Man and The Scarlet Witch begin a multi-part epic in which the Scarlet Witch becomes a prisoner of Cotton Mather during the Salem Witch Trials. "A Witch In Time" is by Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema and Mike Esposito. (10/28)

IRON MAN (82, January). Tony Stark is kidnapped by the Red Ghost's super-apes and Iron Man comes to the rescue in "Plunder Of The Apes" by Len Wein, Herb Trimpe, Marie Severin and Jack Abel. (10/28)

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT (36, January). The finale of the Marcosa-Hellhouse sequence is called The End by Doug Moench and Don Perlin. Next issue the entire concept of the strip is revamped. (Still monthly.) (10/28)

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SGT. FURY (131, January). Reprinted from SF #31 is "Armageddon" by Stan Lee, Dick Ayers and John Tartaglione in which Baron Strucker gets his. (10/28)

CAPTAIN M[illegible]L (42, January). Rick Jones becomes [illegible] The Stranger and Captain [illegible]ly have a Shootout At The O. K. S[illegible] by Steve Englehart and Al Milgrom (and friends). (10/28)

AMAZING ADVENTURES (34, January). Three characters die in the final confrontation between Killraven and Klaw in "Death In The Family" by Don McGregor and Craig Russell. (10/28)

KA-ZAR (14, January). Ka-Zar is in London to prevent K[illegible] getting the secret of Vibranium in a story by Doug Moench, Larry Hama and Fred Kida. (10/28)

HOWARD THE DUCK (1, January). Howard, alone on an earth he never made, decides to commit suicide. Finding a tower to jump from, he discovers [illegible] it's made of plastic credit cards and [illegible] a damsel is being held captive by Pro-K[illegible], Lord Of The Cosmic Calculator. The [illegible] are: How does our feathered

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friend become Howard The Barbarian, and, how does The Amazing Spider-Man fit into the scheme of things? Find out in this story by Steve Gerber, Frank Brunner and Steve Leialoha. (10/28)

THE RINGO KID (25, January). (10/28)

National Coming Comics

OUR ARMY AT WAR (288, January). Another new artist on Sgt. Rock this issue with 'Defend -- Or Destroy" by Bob Kanigher and Jack Lehti. Another Medal Of Honor story by Norman Maurer and a Sergio Aragones War Games feature round out the issue. Cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/2)

GHOSTS (45, January-February). Stories in this issue are "The Headless Ghost," "The Spirit On The Ring" by Nestor Redondo, "The Glowing Specters Of The Swamp" by Tony Henson, and "Bray Of The Phantom Beast" by E. R. Cruz. Cover is by Luis Dominguez. (10/2)

THE JOKER (5, January-February). The Joker is up against The Royal Flush Gang from JLA and 'The Joker Goes Wilde" by Marty Pasko, Irv Novick and Tex Blaisdell. Cover is by Ernie Chua. (10/2)

KAMANDI (37, January). Jack Kirby's last script features a race of strange children in "The Crater People" with art by Jack and inks by D. Bruce Berry. Cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/2)

WEIRD WESTERN TALES (32, January-February). A story slated for the giant issue of WWT was split in two and the first part takes Jonah Hex into Indian territory in "Bigfoot's War" by Mike Fleisher and Jose Garcia-Lopez. Cutting the tale in half left room for a backup so an inventory El Diablo story, "The Devil And The Dead" by Steve Skeates and Alfredo Alcala, rounds out the issue. Cover is by Garcia-Lopez. (10/7)

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (126, January). The Weaponers Of Qward return and Two-Face decides to help the JLA battle them in "The Evil Connection" by Gerry Conway, Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin. Cover is by Ernie Chua. (10/7)

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD (124, January). Batman and Sgt. Rock are joined by allies Bob Haney, Jim Aparo and Murray Boltinoff in "The Small War Of The Super Rifles" by the above people. Cover is by Aparo. (10/7)

TOR (5, January-February). Reprinted in this issue is a Tor story, "Might Makes Right," plus a "Danny Dreams" episode. Art and story are by Joe Kubert. Cover is by Kubert. (10/7)

WEIRD WAR TALES (44, January-February). Barry Of Bleecker Street In The Year 700 ATB continues his saga with "The Emperor Of Weehawken" by Shelly Mayer and Alfredo Alcala. Also, "Photo Finish" by Jack Oleck and Ernie Chua and "Fear No Evil" by Oleck and Jose Garcia-Lopez are included. Cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/9)

ALL-STAR COMICS (58, January-February). Continuing where they left off in 1951, the JSA returns with a new look. Besides members

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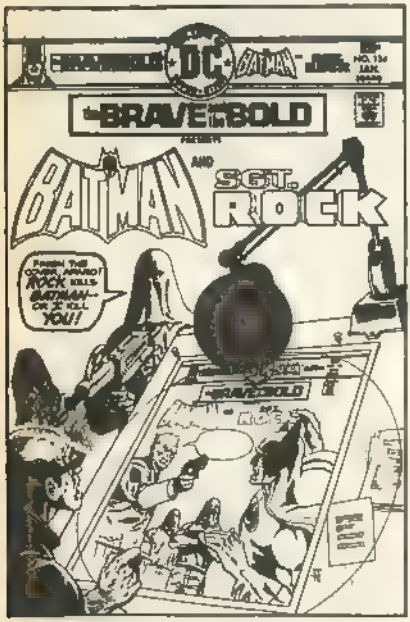
KAMANDI DC
WHO LURKS BEHIND THE CRIMSON MASK?
KAMANDI
THE LAST BOY ON EARTH!
RUN, DOCTOR CAMUS! THE RED RIDERS CATCH US WE'RE DOOMED!
I CAN'T, KAMANDI! I'M TRAPPED!

Hawkman, Dr. Fate, Flash, Dr. Mid-Nite, Wildcat and Green Lantern, the all-new Super Squad show up -- Robin, Star Spangled Kid and Power Girl. The new team battles Brain Wave in a story by Gerry Conway, Ric Estrada and Wally Wood. Cover is by Mike Grell. (10/9)

TARZAN FAMILY (61, January-February) 68 pages. Korak takes a trip on a "Slave Ship" by Bob Kanigher and Noly Zamora, plus a new chapter of Beyond The Farthest Star by Bob Kanigher and a Philippines artist. Reprints include United Feature comic strips. Cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/9)

BLITZKRIEG! (1, January-February). WW II is viewed through German eyes in "The Enemy" by Bob Kanigher and Ric Estrada. Cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/14)

STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES (195, January). The Unknown Soldier invades a school for assassins in the first part of a two-parter,



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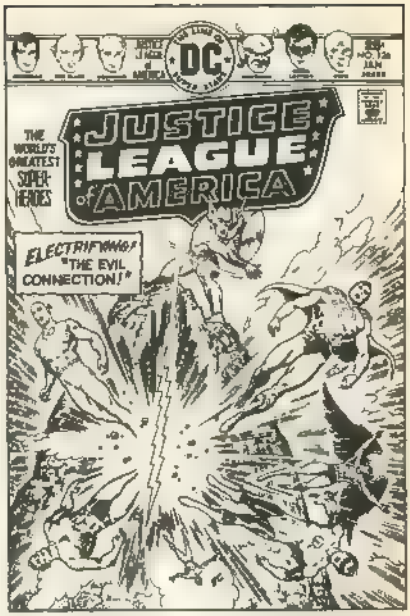
"The Deathmasters" by David Michelinie and Gerry Talaoc. The backup is "Duel In The Desert" by Jack Oleck and Bill Draut. Cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/14)

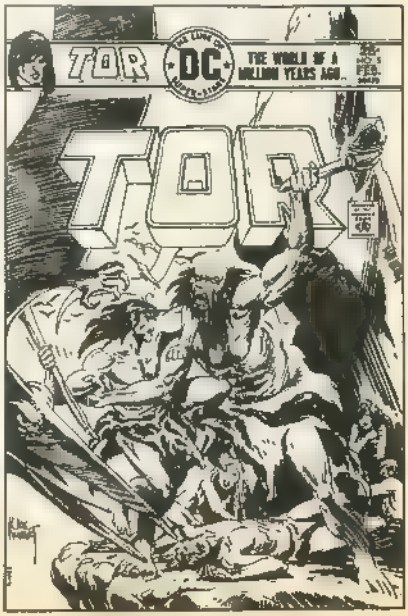
PLOP! (19, January-February). This issue includes "Bug In The Works" by Steve Skeates and Dave Manak, "Plop-ular Poetry" by Wally Wood, "The Untimate Alien Weapon" by Mike Pellowski, Skeates and Frank Thorne, "People Plops" by David Michelinie and Manak, and "Moment Of Decision" by Arnold Drake and Bill Draut. Cover is by Wood. (10/14)

SUPERMAN (295, January). Remember "The Legend" from KAMANDI #29? Well the story in this issue attempts to tie all of the alternate futures established in recent years together



in "Costume, Costume -- Who's Got The Costume?" by Elliot Maggin, Curt Swan and Bob Oksner. Cover is by Oksner. (10/16)

OUR FIGHTING FORCES (163, January). Murray Boltinoff's first issue recounts the origins of the various Losers in "Assault On



Satan's Skull" by Bob Kanigher and Jack Lehti. Cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/16)

THE WARLORD (1, January-February). Mike Grell's one man show continues in its own book as the story begun in FIRST ISSUE SPECIAL #8 continues. Cover is by Grell. (10/16)

BATMAN (271, January). A dead man turns up at the [illegible]ume Penthouse, wrapped in a rug in "The [illegible]rpse Came C.O.D." by David Reed, Irv Novick and Frank McLaughlin. Cover is by Dick Giordano. (10/16)

BLACKHAWK (244, January-February). Gone since 68, Blackhawk, Chuck, Stanislaus, Hendrickson, Andre, Olaf and Chop Chop return as knights for hire in their new-old red and green uniforms. The Duchess Ramona Fatale's island is captured and she employs the Blackhawks to regain it for her in "Death's Right Hand" by Steve Skeates and George Evans. Cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/21)

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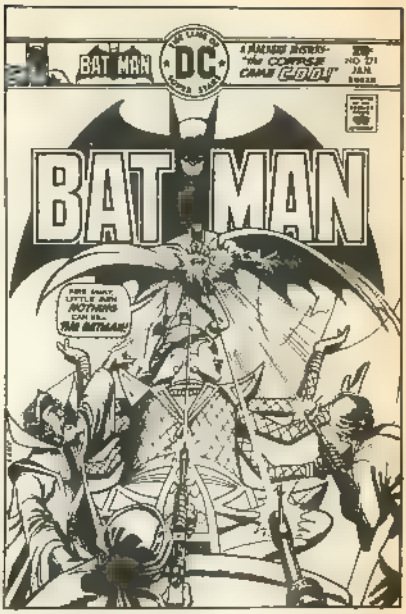
SUPERBOY (214, January). The Boy Of Steel and The Legion find that there's "No Price Too High" for life in a story by Jim Shooter and Mike Grell. The Shrinking Violet stars in her first solo story in the backup, "Stay Small Or Die" by Cary Bates, Mike Grell and Bill Draut. Cover is by Grell. (10/21)

THE BATMAN FAMILY (3, January-February) 68 pages. Batgirl and Robin team-up to face such dangers as dinosaurs and the Spanish Inquisition (No one escapes the Spanish Inquisition!) in "The Isle Of A Thousand Thrills" by Elliot Maggin, Jose Garcia-Lopez and Vince Colletta. Also included are these reprints "The Crimes Of The Kite Man," "The Challenge Of Batwoman" and the future Batman in "The Year 3000." Cover is by Ernie Chua. (10/21)



FIRST ISSUE SPECIAL (10, January). The original name for this strip ('The Super Uglies') should give you some idea what THE OUTSIDERS is about. This new group is by Joe Simon, Jerry Grandenetti and Creig Flessel. Cover is by Ernie Chua. (10/23)

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SHAZAM! (22, January-February). Reprints in this issue are Captain Marvel in Captain Marvel's Most Difficult Task and Mary Marvel in 'The Triton And The Tunnel.' Cover is by Bob Oksner. (10/23)

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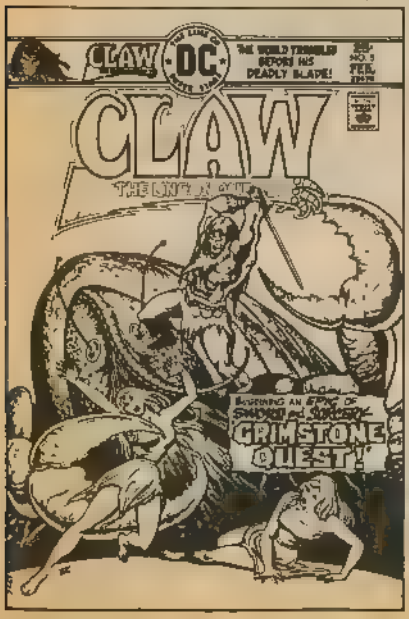

G.I. COMBAT (186, January). The Haunted Tank gets A Souvenir From A Headhunter in the lead story by Bob Kanigher and Sam Glanzman. The backup is "Medic In The Dark by Bart Regan and Ric Estrada. Cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/23)

THE UNEXPECTED (171, January-February). Stories in this issue: "I.O.U. One Corpse" by George Kashdan and Ruben Yandoc; 'Feast For Slaughter" and "A Plague Of Panic" by Jack Phillips and E.R. Cruz. Cover is by Luis Dominguez. (10/23)

CLAW THE UNCONQUERED (5, January-February). Claw and Prince Ghilkyn travel to other dimensions in the first part of "The Grimstone Quest' by David Michelinie and Ernie Chua. Cover is by Chua. (10/28)

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS (235, January). Superman and Batman try to solve the mystery of 'Superman's Stolen Birthday" by Bob Haney, Dick Dillin and John Calnan. Cover is by Ernie Chua and Calnan. (10/28)

DETECTIVE COMICS (455, January). Mike Grell does his first Batman story, "Heart Of A Vampire,' written by Elliot Maggin. Hawkman stars in the backup -- "The Battle Of The Backfiring Weapons" by Nelson Bridwell and Jose Garcia-Lopez. Cover is by Mike Grell. (10/28)

HOUSE OF SECRETS (139, January). The last all-mystery story issue features "The Devil's Daughter" by Jack Oleck, Steve Ditko and Mike Royer, "Instant Rebirth" by George Kashdan and Bill Draut, "A Real Crazy Kid" by Steve Skeates and Nestor Redondo plus some Abel's Fables. Cover is by Berni Wrightson. (10/30)

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ADVENTURE COMICS (443, January-February). Aquaman goes to Europe to see the guys who were so willing to wipe out Atlantis in the last issue and meets an old foe in "The Dolphin Connection" by Paul Levitz, David Michelinie and Jim Aparo. And finally, the last chapter of the Seven Soldiers Of Victory brings everybody back together for a "Confrontation" by Joe Samachson, Dick Dillin and Tex Blaisdell. Cover is by Jim Aparo. (10/30)

TARZAN (245, January). An Edgar Rice Burrough's short story, "The Jungle Murders" is adapted by Joe Kubert and Rudy Florease. Cover is by Kubert. (10/30)

ACTION COMICS (455, January). Superman Green Arrow and The Atom team in a book-lengther to battle the infamous 'Junkman -- The Recycled Super-Star by Elliot Maggin, Curt Swan and Tex Blaisdell. Cover is by Bob Oksner. (10/30)

The Writer's Side

(Beginning this issue is a new continuing feature that will present some of the views of many of today's comic book writers about their craft and the comics scene in general. David Finger conducted these interviews. Each month we will ask a question of interest.)

QUESTION: Would you rate the telling of a story above the establishment of believable characters?

ARCHIE GOODWIN: "No, they're equally important. In fact, in a series, believable characters are probably more important than the storyline."

JOHN D. WARNER: Basically they go hand in hand. I would find it hard to separate the two. If either one suffers, the entire book suffers."

LEN WEIN: "I think the telling of a story INVOLVES the establishing of believable characters. If you set up a believable enough collection of characters you will believe the story no matter how unbelievable it seems because you believe the characters. It's all part of story-telling."

MARV WOLFMAN: "No. The characters come first all the time. I've skipped stories on occasion to establish characters. Readers of DRACULA know that I'll let plots go by to establish believable characters. But I'm plot-conscious too."

CHRIS CLAREMONT: "They always seemed equal to me. It's hard to say. I've been told that I always sacrifice character for action. I prefer working on characters but the books I'm on are action books."

BOB ROZAKIS: "I believe that telling a good story is more important. By telling a good story you establish believable characters."

CARY BATES: "I'd say that comic characters in general have a small degree of believability about them anyway so the story is more important... and my scripts always show it."

ELLIOT MAGGIN: "No. It's like rating oranges and post-nasal drip. One may or may not be able to do one better than the other but neither one is more important than the other."

ROY THOMAS: I would probably say yes. One without the other is no good. The establishment of a believable character is more important than the story, as such. But story-telling is VERY important.

DOUG MOENCH: "Ideally you can interweave both things. You can establish credible characterization by the telling of a good story. If, in the few cases, you had to decide that one can only be achieved at the expense of the other, the story must take precedence. The reason is that the great majority of readers do not necessarily follow every issue. You must give them a story."

GERRY CONWAY: "I think that the two things are exclusive. You can't tell a good story without believable characters. A story is about people, so you need believable people in the story. You can't have one without the other."

DENNY O'NEIL: "I don't think you can separate them because to have a believable story you must have believable characters. I weigh them equally."

STEVE GERBER: "No. First, without believable characters there is no story to tell. I wouldn't place characterization above the telling of a story, but they should be equal. To me, a book without believable characters is an empty book."

(Space will be given for viewpoints by other writers or artists in the next issue if they would care to contribute. Reader comment is welcome.)

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